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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/554,044	10/20/2005	Andre Lechot	PUS-P001-037	2835
51184	7590	01/07/2009	EXAMINER	
MOETTELI & ASSOCIATES SARL ST. LEONHARDSTRASSE 4 ST. GALLEN, CH-9000 SWITZERLAND				THOMAS, DAVID B
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3723				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
01/07/2009		PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/554,044	LECHOT ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	David B. Thomas	3723	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 October 2008.  
 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 2-14 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) 2-6,8-11 and 14 is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 7,12 and 13 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 20 October 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claims 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jarrett (US 2001/0020403 A1).

Jarrett discloses a ratchet wrench with a T-bar. Jarrett discloses in paragraph [0023] that Fig. 9 shows a sixth embodiment of the ratchet wrench that can be disassembled for compact storage purposes, by removing the lever bars of the T-bar wrench along with their integrally fitted tubes. The tubes are interconnected to the ratchet assembly via spring biased balls at 30, 33, 35, and 74 which equate to "the locking mechanism" of claims 12 and 13.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
4. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jarrett ('403) as being obvious in combination with Rastegar et al. (6,679,143) to provide an impact tool (Rastegar et al.) in combination with a ratchet tool (Jarrett) such that the tool may manually provide impact upon the fastener and that the tool may be readily disassembled.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 2-6, 8-11, and 14 are allowed.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: It is the examiner's opinion that the art of record considered as a whole, alone or in combination, neither anticipates nor renders obvious a ring rotatable on the handle, the ring having a surface selectively biasing a ball into or out of a recess to engage or disengage the locking obstruction to lock or unlock the assembly together in combination with the rest of the limitations in the independent claims.

***Conclusion***

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The newly cited references disclose ratchet mechanisms that may be readily disassembled and manually operated impacting mechanisms.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David B. Thomas whose telephone number is (571) 272-4497. The examiner's e-mail address is: [dave.thomas@uspto.gov](mailto:dave.thomas@uspto.gov). The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 10am-7pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph J. Hail can be reached on (571) 272-4485. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/David B. Thomas/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3723

dbt